

**Appendix Table 7-18**
**Public opinion on whether federal government should fund basic scientific research, by respondent characteristic: 2014**

(Percent)

Characteristic	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
All adults ( <i>n</i> = 2,130)	25	60	12	1	2
Sex					
Male ( <i>n</i> = 951)	27	58	13	1	1
Female ( <i>n</i> = 1,179)	23	62	11	1	3
Formal education					
< High school ( <i>n</i> = 246)	13	63	18	2	4
High school diploma ( <i>n</i> = 632)	18	63	15	2	2
Some college ( <i>n</i> = 607)	24	63	10	1	2
Bachelor's degree ( <i>n</i> = 406)	33	55	8	1	2
Graduate/professional degree ( <i>n</i> = 239)	42	48	10	*	1
Science/mathematics education <sup>a</sup>					
Low ( <i>n</i> = 1,205)	19	64	13	2	2
Middle ( <i>n</i> = 392)	29	57	11	1	2
High ( <i>n</i> = 435)	39	51	10	1	*
Family income (quartile) <sup>b</sup>					
Bottom ( <i>n</i> = 532)	23	56	16	2	3
Third ( <i>n</i> = 440)	21	64	12	1	2
Second ( <i>n</i> = 512)	25	62	11	1	2
Top ( <i>n</i> = 480)	30	59	9	1	1
Age (years) <sup>b</sup>					
18–24 ( <i>n</i> = 103)	17	63	11	2	7
25–34 ( <i>n</i> = 382)	24	64	9	1	2
35–44 ( <i>n</i> = 381)	26	59	13	1	1
45–54 ( <i>n</i> = 376)	25	60	14	1	*
55–64 ( <i>n</i> = 429)	29	56	13	1	2
≥ 65 ( <i>n</i> = 441)	23	58	14	2	3
Trend factual knowledge of science scale (quartile) <sup>c</sup>					
Bottom ( <i>n</i> = 349)	18	60	14	3	5



Characteristic		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Third ( <i>n</i> = 588)		15	66	15	1	4
Second ( <i>n</i> = 596)		23	63	11	1	1
Top ( <i>n</i> = 597)		39	50	9	1	1
NOTES:	* = < 0.5% responded.					
	<sup>a</sup> Low = ≤ 5 high school and college science/mathematics courses; middle = 6–8 courses; high = ≥ 9 courses. Categories do not add to total <i>n</i> because "don't know" responses and refusals to respond are not shown.					
	<sup>b</sup> Categories do not add to total <i>n</i> because "don't know" responses and refusals to respond are not shown.					
	<sup>c</sup> Quartiles are based on the percentage of the nine questions in the trend factual knowledge of science scale that were answered correctly. See notes to appendix table 7-2 for the questions.					
SOURCE:		University of Chicago, National Opinion Research Center, General Social Survey (2014). <i>Science and Engineering Indicators 2016</i>				